

Patent Claims:

1. A method for the indirect pressure loss detection on a motor vehicle wheel,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the parameter(s) used for determining pressure loss is/are essentially derived from the wheel acceleration  $a_{\text{wheel}}$ .
2. The method as claimed in claim 1,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that wheel acceleration  $a_{\text{wheel}}$  is evaluated only if defined driving maneuvers or driving conditions prevail, in particular during straight travel.
3. The method as claimed in claim 2,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the minimum  $\text{Min}_i$  and the maximum  $\text{Max}_i$  of the wheel acceleration  $a_{\text{wheel}}$  of each individual vehicle wheel is determined in a predetermined time interval  $T_0$ .
4. The method as claimed in claim 3,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that a difference  $\text{Sample\_acc}$  is produced from the minimum  $\text{Min}_i$  and the maximum  $\text{Max}_i$  of the wheel acceleration  $a_{\text{wheel}}$ .
5. The method as claimed in claim 4,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that a reference value  $\text{Ref\_DIFF}$  is produced from the differences  $\text{Sample\_acc}$  of the individual time intervals  $T_0$  over a time  $T_1$  stretching over several time intervals  $T_0$ .

6. The method as claimed in claim 5,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that an alarm is triggered  
when the difference Sample\_acc exceeds a first limit value  
THRESH 1.
7. The method as claimed in claim 6,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the alarm is  
suppressed when at least one further difference Sample\_acc  
of another vehicle wheel has exceeded a second limit value  
THRESH 2.
8. The method as claimed in claim 6,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the alarm is  
suppressed when other mechanisms or methods provided in  
the vehicle have detected a situation, e.g. rough road  
sections, a non-uniform roadway coefficient of friction  
( $\mu$ -split'), driving on snow and ice, influencing the  
evaluation of the wheel acceleration.
9. The method as claimed in claim 1,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that the evaluation of the  
wheel acceleration  $a_{\text{wheel}}$  is suppressed when other systems  
influencing the wheel acceleration  $a_{\text{wheel}}$ , such as an anti-  
lock system, traction control system, electronic stability  
system, etc., are active.
10. A computer program product,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that it defines an  
algorithm which comprises a method as claimed in at least  
one of claims 1 to 9.